

DOCKET NO: 242641US0CONT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SHIGEYUKI HARITA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: EGWIM, K. C.
SERIAL NO: 10/661,522 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 15, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1713
FOR: POLYVINYL ALCOHOL :
POLYMER FILM AND POLARIZATION
FILM

FIRST DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

I, Nobuo Tanaka, a citizen of Japan, hereby declare and state that:

1. I have a degree in Bachelor of Engineering (Applied Chemistry), which was conferred upon me in 1962 by Osaka City University located in Osaka city, OSAKA, Japan.
2. I have been employed by KURARAY CO., LTD. since 1962 and I have a total of seventeen (17) years of work and research experience in the field of polyvinyl alcohol polymer films.
3. I am the inventor of JP 05245858, which is cited against the above-identified application.

4. When I made the invention disclosed in JP 05245858, I did not have the perception that if the amount of a PVA film eluted when a 10 cm square PVA film is left in 1 liter of water of 50 °C for 4 hours is from 1 to 100 ppm and if the content of an alkali metal compound is 0.5% by weight or less based on PVA, when a polarization film is produced continuously using the above PVA film, defects due to deposition of PVA is not found and unnecessary coloration can be decreased. Therefore, since PVA films were produced in Examples 1 and 2 of JP 05245858 without washing the raw material PVA tips, the amount of PVA eluted should have been far over 100 ppm and the content of an alkali metal compound should have been far over 0.5% by weight based on PVA in the PVA films obtained by Examples 1 and 2.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

6. Further declarant saith not.

Date: February 8, 2006

Nobuo TANAKA

Nobuo Tanaka